pipe at certain places; and lesser thickness of surface coating.

(c) Departmental investigations have been carried out by ONGC with a view to fixing responsibility and for taking corrective action.

(d) No, Sir.

Shortfall in crude oil supplies from Russia

4087. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a considerable shortfall in crude oil supplies from Russia since last year;

(b) if so what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government have taken to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) As per Trade protocol between Russia and India for the year 1992, Russia was to supply 4 million tonnes crude oil. However, only 0.212 MMT of crude oil valued at approx. US $ 27.38 million was supplied.

(c) The shortfall in the supplies from Russia is being met from alternative sources.

Opening ONGC regional office in A.P.

4088. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to open O.N.G.C. regional office in Andhra Pradesh for effective supervision and liaison;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (c) There is no such proposal with the Ministry. ONGC is already operating in Andhra Pradesh with its project Head Quarters at Rajahmundry. ONGC also has a forward base office at Hyderabad for liaising with the State Government.

Scheme of parallel marketing of Kerosene and LPG by Private Sector

4089. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced a scheme of parallel marketing of Kerosene and LPG by Private Sector;

(b) if so, details of the scheme;

(c) what has been the response to the scheme so far; and

(d) what would be the impact of the proposed scheme on pricing and supply of the two petro-products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) Under the parallel marketing system, private agencies have been allowed to import Kerosene and LPG using/setting up their own facilities and distribution network for sale of such imported Kerosene and LPG at market determined prices. These items have been decanalised for import.

(c) About 380 entrepreneurs/firms/companies including multinationals have shown interest in parallel marketing of LPG and/or Kerosene. 1800 MT of LPG has already been imported by a private sector company.

(d) The two products under parallel marketing system are not under any price control. However, these products under the public distribution system continue to be marked at controlled prices. The introduction of parallel marketing system is aimed at enhancing the availability of these products.

मिट्टी के तेल के विक्रेताओं द्वारा किया जा रहा कदाचार

4090. श्री गया सिंह: क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को यह जानकारी है कि सर्कल नं० 36 के अंतर्गत आनेवाले मिट्टी के तेल के विक्रेता जिनका लाइसेंस नं० क्रमशः 1966/79 और 1172/73 है, राशन कार्डधारियों को मिट्टी के तेल से वंचित रखकर धडल्ले से मिट्टी के तेल की कालाबाजारी कर रहे हैं;

(ख) क्या सरकार को यह भी जानकारी है कि लाइसेंस नं० 1966/79 के मालिक की "अग्रवाल स्टोर" के नाम से एक परचून की दुकान भी है जिसके लिए वह दो ड्रम मिट्टी का तेल (लगभग 400 लीटर) हर समय अपने मकान में रखता है, जिसे वह अपने परचून के सामान के फुटकर ग्राहकों को 6 रु० प्रति लीटर की दर से बेच दे रहा है;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि उक्त मिट्टी के तेल का विक्रेता "अग्रवाल स्टोर" नामक अपनी दुकान के उधार रजिस्टर में ऐसे ग्राहकों द्वारा उधार पर लिए गए मिट्टी के तेल का ब्यौरा भी दर्ज